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CITY COUNCIL PUTS TAX RATE DOWN TO 67 CENTS—A 9-CENT REDUCTION

American Legion Fiesta and Automobile Show Is Under Way

BIG CROWD VISITS TENT

Automobiles, Exhibits and Amusements Attract Through CLOSERS SATURDAY Admission and Main Attractions Are Free to All

Crowds are thronging the American Legion Fiesta and Automobile Show grounds at Border and Western avenues. The Fiesta opened Tuesday night and will be open every afternoon and evening until Saturday. Admission and all attractions in the main Fiesta tent are free.

The huge 360-foot Fiesta tent resembles a circus "big top." It is the largest canvas that the Fiesta, in its seven years of existence, ever has used. Inside the big tent the automobile and commercial displays are ranged. Telephone service is available in the Chamber of Commerce booth, and Arrowhead drinking water is being supplied there free of charge by the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company.

The vaudeville stage in the end of the main tent attracted a throng of pleasure seekers on the opening night, when the "Three Joys," clever men's trio, and "Bob" Barker, "Banjo" and "The Three Joys" did their stuff. Last night Betty Evelyn Nair, bob-haired "black bottom" dancer, shared the platform with Ted and Jack Dale, piano, xylophone and whistling "Harmonology" artists.

Tonight Hoot Gibson's Hawaiian Trio and Eddie Gamble, comedy juggler, will furnish the entertainment. Friday will bring the "Premiere Six-O-Six," clever musicians and the Cameo Four, a quartette of lively juveniles. Saturday night the "Three Joys" will pay a return visit and will be augmented by Kitty Moran, recently of "Tip Toes," in a song and dance act.

Outside of the main tent, many midway attractions are in evidence, ranging from the merry-go-round to the old and amusing baseball and stuffed cat marksmanship game.

Many new cars are on display in the Automobile Show, and specials are being offered at several tire company booths.

A real plan service. Consolidated Lumber Co.—Adv.

BILL THE BARBER SAYS
A MAN STILL CAN GO TO A SHOW WITHOUT HEARING ABOUT PROHIBITION.

Championship Contenders Clash on Two Ball League Diamonds; Interleague Games Are Planned

Union Tool and Petroleum Securities Are Leading Fights for Playground and Oil Field Titles

With Murphy's Comedians of the Union Tool Company still in the lead, although the championship playoff series at the Community Summer Playground probably will be settled by tomorrow night, barring tie games. The Comedians have shown a brand of baseball that has kept the heads of the other title contenders in a whirl.

Additional games will be played on the Playground diamond next week, although the summer playground activities will cease tomorrow. A series is being arranged between the Playground League title holder and the winner of the Oil Field League series. The Oil Field schedule will be completed tonight. Petroleum Securities apparently has the title cinched. The Securities team tonight is matched against the Oil Well Supply, and Tolson Transportation, the runners-up, are scheduled to cross bats with Standard Oil. A win by Tolson and a loss by Securities would tie up the series. Standard Oil, once league leader, has slumped to fifth place by forfeiting two tie games.

FINAL LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES

LEAGUE	TONIGHT	TOMORROW
OIL FIELD LEAGUE	Petroleum Securities vs. Oil Well Supply Calpet vs. Superior Standard Oil vs. Tolson	
PLAYGROUND LEAGUE	Union Tool vs. Pacific Electric	Union Tool vs. Lomita Globe Bakery

Pet. Sec. Puts Skids Under Oil Well and Calpet Comedians Take Two More in Title Drive

Petroleum Securities took the Calpet boys down the line Tuesday night, 19 to 3. Two out of Calpet's three runs were homers, bonked out by Warren Scriver. Campbell pulled across a run in the second inning. West pitched the first seven innings for Calpet and Warren finished it up.

Ray Shippy and Morritt worked in the box and behind the plate for Petroleum Securities. Ralph Barrow knocked the apple out of the lot for a Petroleum Securities home run in the sixth.

Superior took an 11 to 3 beating from Tolson Tuesday night and Oil Well Supply lunged in on Standard Oil to the tune of 19 to 3.

Thursday night Petroleum Securities and Tolson staged an airtight exhibition of baseball on the Petroleum Securities diamond. The Securities boys were in championship form, however, and pulled the same out of the fire in the last inning with a home run from Clapper's bat. The score was 13 to 12.

The game was nip and tuck every minute. At the beginning of the ninth Tolson took a two-run lead, only to lose it when Petroleum Securities took the bat. Then Clapper connected with the long one over center field that stopped the works.

Superior took Standard into camp 28 to 7, after having simulated a troupe of marathons in the seventh inning, with 17 runs in succession.

Oil Well Supply administered a 22 to 8 drubbing to Calpet.

EDUCATIONAL CENTER
The Mothers' Educational Center will be held Friday morning from 10 to 12 at the Women's Club House.

TORRANCE VS. SPERMAN
The Torrancia Merchants will play Sherman at Sherman next Sunday.

Observations

New Orleans Surrenders to the Crusaders—Postwar Industry, Second Act

(Republished from the Independent, Boston)
JOIN in singing a requiem for the New Orleans that was. The old French city, long stronghold of the fast-dying American individualist, has capitulated to the boosters, flown the white flag to the crusaders, and is rapidly becoming standardized. Sadly we read the obituary set forth in a mournful dispatch to the New York Times. The law against lotteries is being enforced. Reformers are dealing knockout punches to the Sport of Kings and the dog tracks. Unexcelled restaurants, famous in song and story—Kolb's, La Louisianne, Arnaud's, Broussard's, Antoine's—which offered the best cuisine on the continent, are giving way before cafeterias and sandwich shops. Northern realtors are gradually eliminating the quaint atmosphere of lovely old districts with new, modern structures of steel and stone. New Orleans, so the correspondent writes, is "going to bed early."

This is discouraging. The four unique American cities now threaten to become but two. New York is everything—individual because of universal appeal, by virtue of bigness. Boston is different—well, because it is Boston, as someone once remarked, a state of mind. San Francisco was once a bluff, generous, genial, wicked town, pulsing with the vigor of gold-rush days. But its character burned out with what San Franciscans call "the fire." Many a mourner weeps at the tomb of those days gone by.

New Orleans, shrugging her dainty shoulders at all attempts to make her be good,—laughing, dining, wining, singing, sometimes riotous, always naughty, seemed immune from standardization. Now, alas! she promises to become just another American city.

EUROPE is girding itself for commercial war against American industry. Domestic and internal combinations, unrestrained by law, have been perfected in almost every basic European industry. And in steel, at least, the competition has given American interests ground for apprehension.

Two years ago when the European steel cartel was formed United States fabricators began looking to their markets. At one time the Treasury Department seriously contemplated a complete embargo on foreign steel. This drastic action was forestalled by more thorough investigation, but much lively diplomatic correspondence was loosed over it. Now come seven American manufacturers of steel and steel products with a formal complaint to the Bureau of Customs that German steel is being dumped on the American market, in defiance of our anti-dumping laws. The complainants ask that the law be enforced and that the tariff on steel be increased.

Whether or not these contentions, which the Bureau is now studying, are wholly substantiated, the very fact that the complaint has been lodged indicates that steel groups on this side of the Atlantic regard the European combination as a powerful competitor—not only in the United States but in other markets. It is well known that Europeans have snatched several fat steel contracts in South America from American bidders. Even in this country a number of large cities have purchased Belgian and German structural steel for the simple reason that the Europeans actually undersold bidders on this side of the Atlantic. Since that time American steel men have been delivering patriotic exhortations; but where round dollars are concerned hard-headed business men are not apt to remain patriotic forever. Hence the demand for enforcement of anti-dumping laws and a higher tariff on steel.

The situation which confronts American fabricators is complicated by the fact that members of the farm bloc in Congress declare they will insist on a reduction in steel-tariff schedules at the next session. This move is probably designed as strategic action to force farm-relief legislation. At the same time it does not contribute to the peace of mind of steel men challenged in their own domain by foreign competitors.

Signs of international competition are also visible in other basic industries. British and German chemical groups recently formed two huge mergers and plants are now rumored which would fuse the two into one. At the very least, it is said, a trade agreement will be reached dividing world markets and joining forces in competition with Americans. The thirty year fight for oil supremacy is raging with new vigor. Latest developments...

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PASSED WHICH PUTS RATE IN EFFECT TODAY—MUCH THOUGHT IS GIVEN

Council, Faced by Approaching Statutory Time Limit, Solves Problem and Cuts Rate to New Low Level

Torrance's municipal tax rate for the fiscal year 1927-1928 has been set at 67 cents, as against 76 cents for the year 1926-1927—a nine-cent reduction. The total 67-cent rate, including 54 cents on each \$100 of the assessed valuation for the general governmental fund, 10 cents for advertising, music and parks, and three cents for payment of interest and principal on municipal bonds, applies only to the confines of the Old City. In the annexations, Northwest Torrance and Meadow Park, the tax rate is 64 cents—54 cents for the general governmental fund and 10 cents for advertising, music and parks. The three-cent bond tax does not apply to the annexations. The 67-cent tax rate was set Monday by the City Council in special session by adoption of an emergency ordinance.

CONCRETE CO. MOVING DIRT TO BIG PLANT

Soil Being Taken From High Downtown Lots to East Road Site

Soil is being removed from a number of downtown lots, in the vicinity of Cabrillo, Sartori and Marcella avenues, for filling in the grounds of the United Concrete Pipe and Construction Company plant at Normandie avenue and East Road. The lots from which the soil is being taken are above the street level. The operation will result in bringing them down to grade.

The United Concrete Pipe and Construction Company, which is now operating with small shifts, expects to start full production, employing 75 to 100 men, as soon as the present filling operations are completed at the plant.

A steam shovel started on the high lot back of the Telephone Company office yesterday. The dirt is being trucked to the plant.

Bldg. Permits Show Increase Over Aug. 1926

Building permits, issued in Torrance during the month of August total \$35,375, with 26 permits issued. The August permits total \$23,150.

Permits issued during the past two weeks include: Viola Keene, 2016 Andrea, \$600, garage; Charles Vonderhake, 2637 Sonoma, \$290, five-room frame dwelling; Ferguson, 2355 Sonoma, \$250, garage; Arthur Mullin, 1323 Cota, \$100, garage; V. W. Hometh, 1007 Portola, \$100, garage; Henry McElby, 809 Arlington, \$100, garage.

OLD CITY RATE	
General Fund	54c
Advertising	10c
Bonds	3c
Total	67c
ANNEXATIONS RATE	
General Fund	54c
Advertising	10c
Total	64c
REVENUE	
General Fund Tax	\$ 83,382
Revenue	
Other Revenue and Cash on Hand	32,000
Total General Fund	\$115,382
Advertising Tax	16,281
Revenue	
Bond Tax Revenue	2,835
Grand Total	\$134,498

End of Summer Brings Closing of Playground

Tomorrow will be the last day of the community playground. Saturday will be used by Director Ben Comrada for checking up on supplies and returning them to the physical education department at Los Angeles.

Baseball has proven to be the most popular sport for the season, although the boys have greatly enjoyed trips to the beaches and mountains. Caroms, checkers, horseshoes, tennis and golf have been next in order. Not so much football has been played but it ranks with baseball for sheer enjoyment and intensity of competition.

For the last two weeks basketball has been the center of attraction and a large number of boys have made use of the gym days, not only for basketball but work on the mats and bars. The Wildcats won the championship of the afternoon league in baseball with the Black Bears second, the Felix third and Tigers fourth. The Wildcats also won the track championship of the league.

The emergency ordinance allowed the adoption of the tax rate with a single reading. This was necessary because the Council, after its decision to reconsider the ordinance introduced August 15, and which set the rate at 73 cents, had not time to allow the ordinance to reach adoption through the ordinary channel. That would have required an elapse of five days between introduction and passage.

Under the law, the tax ordinance had to be adopted before the last Tuesday in August. The Council, determined to relieve the tax payers still further after examination had revealed that the 73 cent rate was higher than necessary, solved the problem by the addition of an emergency clause to the tax ordinance. Under the new ordinance, the new tax rate becomes effective today.

The 54-cent rate, for general governmental purposes and applying alike to the Old City, and the two annexations—Northwest Torrance and Meadow Park—will yield revenue totalling \$83,382. The 10-cent advertising, park and music tax, applying also to the old city and both annexations, will yield \$16,281, and the three-cent tax for payment of interest and principal on municipal bonds, applying only to the Old City, will yield \$2,835, making total revenue from the 67-cent tax rate \$134,498.

Other estimated municipal revenue, aside from the municipal tax, and cash on hand total \$32,000, giving a total general governmental operating fund of \$115,382, and a total revenue for all purposes, including advertising and bonds, of \$134,498.